

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 3017 without my signature.

The \$1.25 million appropriation in this bill for the Advancement Via Individual Determination program (AVID) was not included in the *2004-05 Budget Act*. I recognize the role that the AVID program has served in increasing underrepresented student access to advanced placement courses and higher education. Unfortunately, the State's limited resources do not allow for the continued level of support for the program. As I stated in my line-item reduction message, districts currently participating in the AVID program are encouraged to utilize existing staff development dollars to supplement AVID teacher training funding.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger